

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

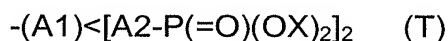
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

54. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer of generation n comprising:

- a central core  $\S$  of valence m;
- optionally, generation chains branching around the core;
- an intermediate chain at the end of each generation chain that is present, or at the end of each bond around the core, where appropriate; and
- a terminal group at the end of each intermediate chain,

wherein said terminal group is represented by the formula:



wherein

-A1< represents the radical -CR< or -Heteroatom< ;

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or ~~[[a]]~~ an radical -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

X represents  $[[a]]$  an radical—alkyl, -Alkyl or -Aryl radical, -H or  $/M^+$ , where M is a cation,

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12; and

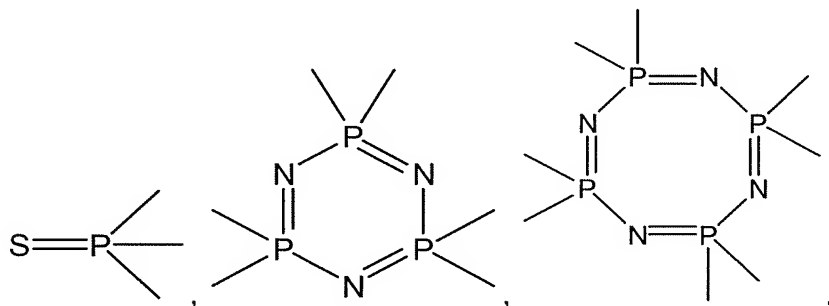
< represents two bonds situated on A1.

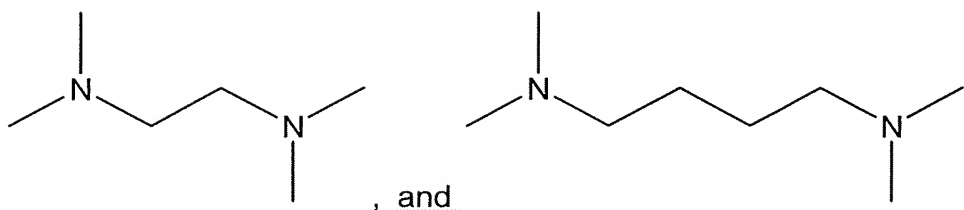
55. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, having a structure of the DAB, PAMAM or PMMH type.

56. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein A1 represents the radical  $-\text{CH}<$  or  $-\text{N}<$ .

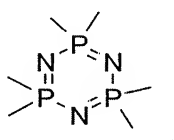
57. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein A2 represents -Me-.

58. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the central core § is selected from the ~~following groups~~ group consisting of:





59. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the central core § has the formula:



60. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein m represents an integer from 1 to 8.

61. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein m is selected from 3, 4 and 6.

62. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein n is from 0 to 3.

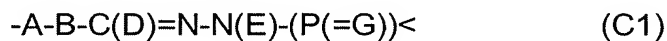
63. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are selected from linear and branched hydrocarbon chains having from 1 to 12 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, a group an Aryl radical, a Heteroaryl radical, >C=O, and >C=NR, each

chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

64. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains, which are identical or different, are represented by the formula:



wherein:

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~[[by]]~~ a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~by a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, ~~Selenium~~ selenium or ~~Tellurium~~ tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom; and

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

65. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein in formula C1 A represents an oxygen atom.

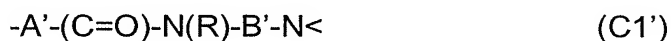
66. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein B represents an optionally substituted phenyl radical.

67. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymers according to claim 64, wherein D represents a hydrogen atom.

68. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein E represents ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl radical.

69. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 64, wherein G represents a sulfur atom.

70. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are represented by the formula:



wherein

A' and B' each independently of the other represents a ~~radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a ~~radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

71. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein A' and B' each independently of the other represents a radical -Alkyl-.

72. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are represented by the formula:



wherein

A'' represents a ~~radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a ~~radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

73. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 72, wherein A'' represents an optionally substituted radical -Alkyl-.

74. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are selected from linear and branched hydrocarbon chains having from 1 to 12 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, ~~a group~~ an Aryl radical, a Heteroaryl radical,  $>C=O$ , and  $>C=NR$ , each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

75. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are represented by formula:

-J-K-L- (C2)

wherein

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents ~~a radical~~ an -Aryl-, -C(=O), -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~[[by]]~~ a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

L represents a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

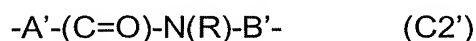
wherein R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

76. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 75, wherein J represents an oxygen atom.

77. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 75, wherein K represents an optionally substituted -Phenyl- radical.

78. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 75, wherein L represents a radical  $-(\text{Alk})_a-$  or the radical  $-\text{C}(\text{D})=\text{N}-\text{N}(\text{E})-(\text{Alk})_a-$ , where D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represent a hydrogen atom, or an -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a halogen atom or by a -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

79. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are represented by formula



wherein A' and B' each independently of the other represents a radical an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and



R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

80. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the intermediate chains are represented by formula



wherein

A'' represents a radical an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and

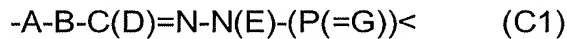
R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

81. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein M<sup>+</sup> represents a cation of an element of group IA, IIA, IIB or IIIA of the periodic table or a cation of a nitrogen-containing base.

82. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein M is selected from the atoms sodium and potassium.

83. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains are identical.

84. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, wherein the generation chains, which may be identical or different, are represented by the formula (C1) or (C2):



wherein:

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical an -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or a radical an -Alkyl-, -OAlkyl-, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, ~~Selenium~~ selenium or ~~Tellurium~~ tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

L represents a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members and optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

wherein R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical.

85. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I) (I-1i):



in which:

§ represents a central core;

{[A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<]<sup>n</sup> represents generation chains;

J-K-(Alk)<sub>a</sub>- represents an intermediate chain';

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents ~~a radical~~ an -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~by a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~by a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, ~~Selenium~~ selenium or ~~Tellurium~~ tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl[.] radical;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents a radical an -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

X represents a radical an -alkyl[.] or -Aryl radical, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

the radicals A<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

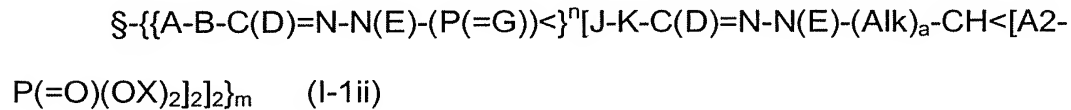
m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12;

{<sup>n</sup>} denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer, and

a represents 0 or 1.

86. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I-1ii):



in which:

$\S$  represents a central core;

$\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))< \}^n$  represents generation chains;

$J-K-C(D)=N-N(E)-(Alk)_a-$  represents an intermediate chain;

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents ~~[[a]] an radical~~ -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~[[by]] a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, or ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~by a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, nitrogen, Selenium selenium or Tellurium tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents ~~a radical~~ an -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~by a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

X represents ~~a radical—alkyl~~, an Alkyl or-Aryl radical, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

the radicals A<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

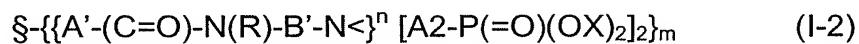
m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12;

{<sup>n</sup>} denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer, and

a represents 0 or 1.

87. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I-2):



in which:

§ represents a central core;

{A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-N<}<sup>n</sup> represents intermediate chains;

A' and B' each independently of the other represents a ~~radical~~ an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

X represents a ~~radical~~ an -alkyl[[.]] or -Aryl radical, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

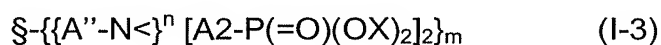
the radicals A<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12; and

{<sup>n</sup>} denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer.

88. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 54, which is represented by the following formula (I-3):



in which:

§ represents a central core;

{A''-N<}<sup>n</sup> represents intermediate chains;

A'' represents a radical an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

X represents a radical an -alkyl[[,]] or -Aryl radical, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

the radicals A<sub>2</sub>, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1;

n represents an integer from 0 to 12;

and {}<sup>n</sup> denotes the branched structure of the generation n chains of said dendritic polymer.

89. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 54, comprising:

(i) reacting the corresponding dendritic polymer having a terminal function -CHO, -CH=NR, -NH<sub>2</sub> or -P(=G)Cl<sub>2</sub>

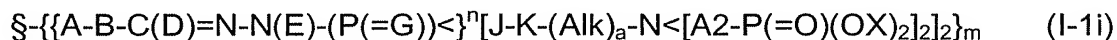


with a corresponding compound having one or two functionalities  $-\text{PO}_3\text{X}_2$ ;

(ii) optionally followed, when X represents H or M, by a step which comprises converting the dendritic polymer obtained in (i) having a  $-\text{PO}_3\text{Me}_2$  termination into the corresponding dendritic polymer having an  $-\text{A1}<[\text{A2-P(=O)(OH)}_2]_2$  termination,

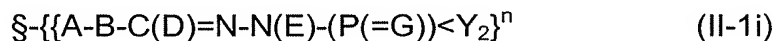
(iii) optionally followed, when X represents M, by a step which comprises converting the dendritic polymer obtained in (ii) having an  $-\text{A1}<[\text{A2-P(=O)(OH)}_2]_2$  termination into the salt of the corresponding dendritic polymer having an  $-\text{A1}<[\text{A2-P(=O)(OM)}_2]_2$  termination.

90. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein, when the dendritic polymer according to the invention is represented by the formula (I-1i)



in which  $\S$ , A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, A2, Alk, X, a, m, n, and < have the meanings defined above,

step (i) comprises reacting with the corresponding dendritic polymer of the same generation n of the formula



wherein Y represents -Cl;

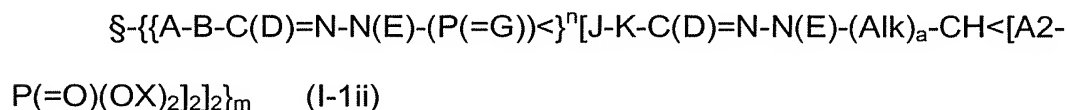
a compound of formula  $\text{H-J-K-(Alk)}_a\text{-N}<[\text{A2-P(=O)(OX)}_2]_2 \quad (\text{III}).$

91. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 90, wherein the reaction is carried out in solution in a polar aprotic solvent, in the presence of an organic or inorganic base, at a temperature of from  $-80^\circ\text{C}$  to  $100^\circ\text{C}$ .

92. (Cancelled)

93. (Cancelled)

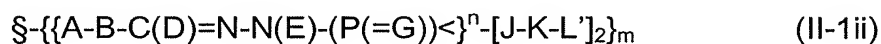
94. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 89, wherein, when the dendritic polymer according to the invention is represented by formula (I-1ii)



in which:

$\S$ , A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, L, X, A2, m, n, and a have the meanings defined above,

step (i) comprises reacting with the corresponding dendritic polymer of formula



wherein L' represents a radical -CHO ;



wherein Alk' corresponding to Alk defined above in formula (I-1ii) represents a radical Alkenyl, and X has the meaning defined above, in the presence of a compound of formula



95. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 94, wherein the reaction is carried out in a polar aprotic solvent medium, by addition of the compounds (VI) and (VII) to the dendritic polymer (II-1ii) at a temperature of from -80°C to 100°C.

96. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein step (ii) is carried out:

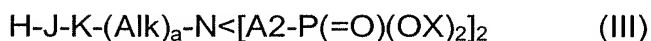
- by the action of a trimethylsilane halide,
- followed by the action of anhydrous MeOH, which is added to the reaction mixture.

97. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 96, wherein the procedure is carried out in a polar aprotic organic solvent by addition of the trimethylsilane halide while keeping the reaction mixture at a temperature of from -80°C to 50°C.

98. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein in step (iii) a salt of a compound according to the invention is obtained starting from a compound according to the invention having a terminal group in which X represents a hydrogen atom.

99. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 98, wherein the procedure is carried out in solution, in a suitable polar protic or aprotic solvent, in the presence of an organic or inorganic base, depending on the salt that is desired.

100. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A compound of formula (III):



in which

X represents ~~a radical~~ an -Alkyl, -C(=O), or -Aryl radical, H or M<sup>+</sup>, wherein M<sup>+</sup> is a cation;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

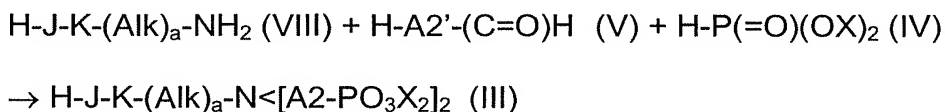
K represents ~~a radical~~ an -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or ~~by a radical~~ -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

the radicals A2, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a single bond or a linear or branched hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, preferably nitrogen, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

-Alk- represents an alkyl radical; and

a represents 0 or 1.

101. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing a compound of formula (III) according to claim 100, comprising the following step:



wherein, in formula (V), -A2'- is a radical corresponding to A2.

102. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 101, wherein the procedure is carried out by addition of the compounds (VIII) and (IV), and of the compound (V), at a temperature of from  $-5$  to  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

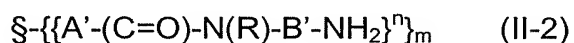
103. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or being in contact with surfaces comprising using a dendritic polymer according to claim 54.

104. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 103, wherein said surfaces are metal, silica-based or oxide-based.

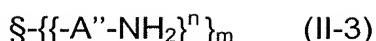
105. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 103, wherein said dendritic polymer is used as an additive in a composition that is to be in contact with or to treat said surface.

106. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 103, wherein said dendritic polymer is used as an anti-corrosive agent, a lubricating agent, a scale preventer or as a flame retardant.

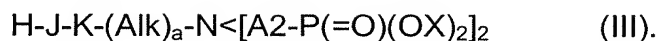
107. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) A method for preparing a dendritic polymer according to claim 89, wherein, when  $-A1<$  is  $N<$ , step (i) comprises reacting with the corresponding dendritic polymer of the same generation  $n$  of the formula



or



a compound of formula (III)



where  $\S$ , A', A'', B', X, R, m, and n are as defined in claims 54, 70 or 72.

$\S$  is a central core of valence m ;

A', A'' and B' each independently of the other represents an -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl,

X represents an Alkyl or -Aryl radical, -H or /M<sup>+</sup>, where M is a cation,

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or an -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

K represents an -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or a -NO<sub>2</sub>, -NRR', -CN, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl radical;

m represents an integer greater than or equal to 1; and

n represents an integer from 0 to 12.